

SENATE BILL 4043

By Haynes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16,  
Chapter 15, Part 9, relative to service of process.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-15-903, is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision:

(11) When service of warrant, writ or other papers, is provided for or permitted by registered or certified mail, under the laws of Tennessee, and the addressee, or the addressee's agent, refuses to accept delivery, and it is so stated in the return receipt of the United States postal service, the written return receipt, if returned and filed in the action, shall be deemed an actual and valid service of the warrant, writ or other papers. Service by mail is complete upon mailing. For purposes of this subdivision (11), the United States postal service notation that a properly addressed, registered or certified letter is "unclaimed," or other similar notation, is sufficient evidence of the defendant's refusal to accept delivery.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.